

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : :Naoki YAMAGUCHI, et al.  
Filed :Concurrently herewith  
For :BIDIRECTIONAL LINE SWITCHING....  
Serial Number :Concurrently herewith

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 5, 2004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the non US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

For documents written in a language other than English, English language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98 (a)(3).

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended

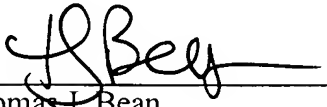


that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas J. Bean  
Reg. No. 44,528

Customer No:026304  
Docket No: FUJH 20.915

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. :

Filing Date :

First Named Inventor: N. YAMAGUCHI

Group Art Unit :

Examiner Name :

Attorney Docket No. : FUJH 20.915

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

**FOREIGN DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup>  (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		8-023321	JP	Oki Electric Ind Co Ltd.	01-23-1996	
		2002-217927	JP	Fujitsu Ltd.	08-02-2002	
		7-177115	JP	Hitachi Ltd.	07-14-1995	
		11-313096	JP	Hitachi Ltd.	11-09-1999	
		10-290249	JP	Hitachi Ltd.	10-27-1998	
		8-316978	JP	Nec Telecom Syst Ltd. Nec Corp	11-29-1996	
		2001-339416	JP	Fujitsu Ltd.	12-07-2001	
		2000-134246	JP	Fujitsu Ltd.	05-12-2000	
		9-018506	JP	Nec Miyagi Ltd. Nec Corp.	01-17-1997	
		2001-186159	JP	Fujitsu Ltd.	07-06-2001	
		7-264228	JP	10-13-1995	10-13-1995	

**Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1<sup>6</sup> if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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